



The NUNES Report

Congressman Nunes Joins President Bush for Bill Signing



Rep. Nunes, seated next to Rep. McCotter (R-MI) on the South Lawn of the White House for the tax bill signing

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Our Mission Statement

To ensure our constituents and all Americans live free and prosperous lives in a healthy and safe environment by serving, communicating, protecting and representing them in a professional and caring manner.

On May 17, Congressman Nunes joined a select group of his colleagues at the White House for the signing of H.R. 4297, the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act. This important piece of legislation extends a number of vitally important tax cuts that have spurred economic growth and reduced the unemployment rate since first going into effect in 2003.

"I was honored to join President Bush for the signing of this historic bill and believe that we must continue to pass more pro-

growth legislation to keep our economy on the great track that it has been on for the past three years," said Rep. Nunes.

Specifically, the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act prevents several current-law tax provisions from expiring in the near future. These provisions affect a broad spectrum of taxpayers, including investors, job creators, and middle-income families. The two largest pieces of the bill are the extension of the lower tax rates on capital gains and dividends and the

extension of the alternative minimum tax (AMT) protection.

Despite securing this victory, Congressman Nunes still pointed out that broader reform is desperately needed, "There is still much work to be done on the tax code, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee to provide meaningful and fundamental reforms that will benefit all Americans."

ANWR Exploration Passes the House Again

With prices at the gas pump soaring, Rep. Devin Nunes is once again helping take the lead to increase the domestic supply of oil and natural gas, which could lower prices for consumers and reduce U.S. reliance on foreign oil. On May 25, the House passed – with Congressman Nunes’ support – H.R. 5429, the American Made Energy and Good Jobs Act. This bill would provide for energy exploration and production in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) that will take place under the most stringent environmental protection requirements ever applied to federal energy project, using the most sophisticated 21st Century technology available.



Source: Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Quick Facts

Rep. Devin Nunes maintains two offices in the 21st Congressional District to serve the needs of his constituents.

His main office is in Visalia at 113 N. Church St., Suite 208, 93291. The telephone number is 733-3861.

His Fresno County office is in Clovis at 264 Clovis Ave., Suite 206, 93612. The telephone number is 323-5235.

The coastal plain of ANWR is of particular interest for its massive energy potential, which is estimated to be the largest discovery of oil in the United States. In April of 2003, Rep. Nunes traveled with members of the Resources Committee to Alaska, where they held a field hearing on possible energy development in the area.

“I expected to see mountains, trees and caribou. For the most part, it’s 19 million acres of flat land covered in ice,” Rep. Nunes said. The House is proposing allowing oil and gas production on 2,000 of the 19 million acre refuge. Unfortunately, the Senate has not recently acted on a bill allowing exploration in ANWR, and the American people are feeling the impact every time they go to fill up their cars.

He added, “Had President Clinton not vetoed the ANWR Bill in 1995, then we would have a minimum of 1 million additional barrels of oil a day flowing into the lower 48 states.”

Medicare Prescription Drug Sign-up Period Closes

As the May 15 deadline for seniors to sign-up for Medicare’s prescription drug benefit has come and gone, Congressman Nunes took time to praise the impact the new program is having on the lives of seniors in the San Joaquin Valley.

“38 million seniors are now receiving prescription drugs for free or for drastically reduced prices, and I was proud to support the passage of this measure,” said Rep. Nunes.

Approximately 90 % of Medicare beneficiaries are

now receiving this benefit, with nearly 60,000 residing in Tulare and parts of Fresno Counties. The commitment by House Republicans to provide opportunities for people to get personalized assistance and make a decision whether to enroll in the benefit, contributed to over 50,000 Medicare events having been held in towns across America. But, there is more work to be done. While the next open enrollment period begins on November 15, some people can still sign-up penalty-free. This includes seniors and individuals with disabilities who have limited

income and resources, victims of Hurricane Katrina, as well as those who turn 65 in the coming year. Those who think they fall into one of these categories should apply by calling the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213.

Congressman Nunes added, “I strongly urge anyone that is eligible to review the plans and sign-up as soon as possible.”

Congressman Nunes Holds 3rd Annual Central Valley Ag Tour

On May 31, Rep. Devin Nunes held his 3rd Annual Central Valley Ag Tour with more than 40 community and business leaders. The day-long tour took the group by charter bus to six locations for a behind-the-scenes look at the nation's most diverse and productive agricultural region.

Traveling with the group this year as the Congressman's special guest was California's State Director of USDA Rural Development, Ben Higgins. Mr. Higgins was appointed by USDA Secretary Mike Johanns in March of 2006 and has a background in the cattle industry.

"Folks in the community often overlook the fact that our area is the nation's largest producer of agriculture products, and I think this is a good opportunity to remind them of that" Rep. Nunes said. "Agriculture represents 21 percent of all income and 25 percent of employment in the Valley, so it's important for local officials to have a good understanding of the issues and concerns that farmers and producers face every day."

The tour schedule this year included:

- Campos Brothers Almonds
- A-G Sod Farm
- Kearney Ag Center
- Ruiz Foods
- Family Tree Farms
- Bravo Farms



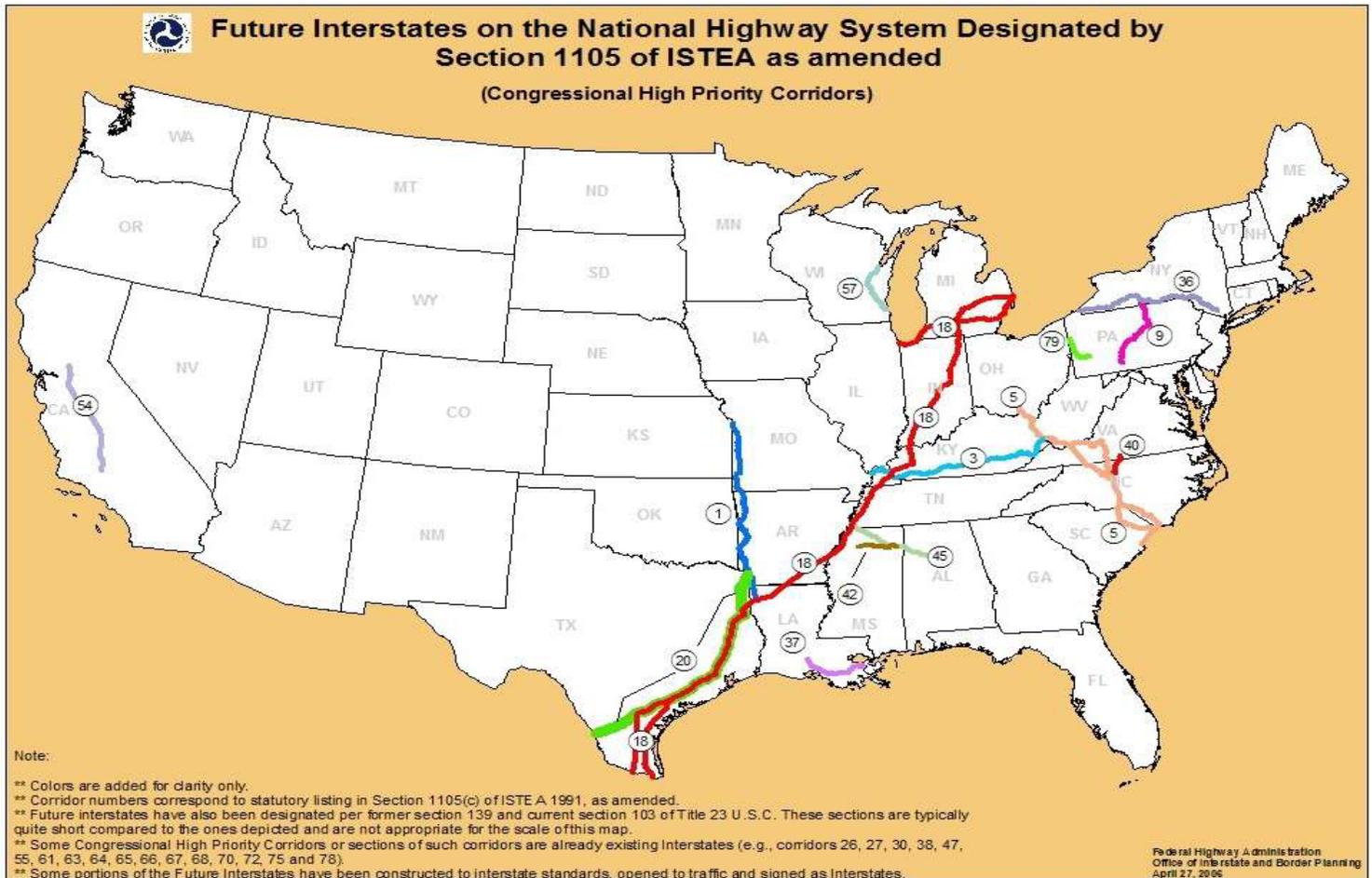
Top Right: Congressman Nunes listens to a presentation at Campos Bros Almonds in Caruthers

Middle: Congressman Nunes with Ben Higgins, California's State Director of USDA Rural Development at Bravo Farms in Traver

Bottom Right: Congressman Nunes tours the A-G Sod Farm in Caruthers

Bottom Left: Fred Ruiz tells Ag Tour participants about the work being done at Ruiz Foods in Dinuba

Congressman Nunes Once Again Highlights Future Improvements to Highway 99



As reported last year, Highway 99 is now eligible for extensive improvements thanks to two key provisions written by Rep. Nunes that were included in the national transportation bill. The first provision designates Highway 99 as a national high priority corridor, which makes it eligible for new federal dollars. The second provision makes Highway 99 eligible to become a federal interstate.

The graphic above highlights just how impressive the task was to get Highway 99 included in the high priority corridor program. The transportation bill included few new entries to the program but Highway 99 was the only one west of the Rocky Mountains. The Farm to Market Corridor is listed as number 54 above.

“Highway 99 has been neglected far too long,” Rep. Nunes said. “Making Highway 99 a six lane freeway from Bakersfield to Sacramento is very important, and I’m pleased to see that we are on the right path to getting that accomplished.”

The federal transportation bill also includes money for several projects in Fresno and Tulare counties, including:

- ◆ \$7.6 million for Highway 180 improvements in Fresno
- ◆ \$6.5 million to widen Highway 99 from Goshen to Kingsburg
- ◆ \$3.2 million for farm-to-market roads in Tulare County
- ◆ \$2.8 million to improve traffic flows between connected highways in Fresno
- ◆ \$2.4 million to widen Highway 198 from Highway 99 to State Route 43
- ◆ \$1.6 million to widen the Ben Maddox Way bridge in Visalia
- ◆ \$1.2 million for traffic improvements to Ave. 416 near Dinuba
- ◆ \$1.6 million to widen Friant Road to four lanes with bicycle lanes
- ◆ \$240,000 for traffic improvements to Willow and Herndon in Clovis